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PA - Weekly

628

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

S/S

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____
RDS☐ or XDS☐ EXT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
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June 27, 1978

TO: The Secretary

FROM: PA - Hodding Carter III

PUBLIC MAIL REPORT
June 19-23, 1978

Boosted by two mail campaigns on Latin American issues, this week's correspondence volume totaled 1,252 pieces. The White House forwarded 296 letters to us and the Vice President's office sent 55. The Correspondence Management Division also received 561 of your letters and 340 pieces addressed to the Department in general.

Individually Written Messages

52 encouraged the Administration to protest Soviet harassment of Jewish citizens, particularly Vladimir Slepak, Ida Nudel, Anatoliy Shcharanskiy and Joseph Begun.

40 letters focused on U.S.-Soviet relations. Many discussed Soviet and Cuban involvement in Africa. Most of these either warned us against entering another Vietnam-type situation or applauded recent statements by various Administration officials which they perceived to show greater U.S. courage in "standing up to the Russians."

20 debated the importance of a SALT II agreement. Approximately one half strongly supported an agreement; many of these argued that we must not permit Soviet involvement in Africa to jeopardize our negotiations. The other half discouraged a SALT II agreement by warning of Soviet world domination plans and of their alleged violations of previous agreements.

17 Midwestern correspondents wrote to you protesting site preparation for the construction of a coal-burning power plant in Atikokan, Ontario, 40 miles north of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

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16 people, many of them attorneys, asked the President to sign the Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which would reportedly allow U.S. citizens to complain about human rights violations in this country.

Campaign Mail

189 letters from the San Francisco area, many similarly worded, pointed out what they viewed as a discrepancy between the Department's written policy on the People's Temple in Jonestown, Guyana and the statements of one of CA's press spokesmen about the Department's attitude toward the Temple.

148 printed form letters from Miami protested the findings of a Federal Magistrate that Gustavo Vastillo and Gaspar Jimenez are extraditable for allegedly attempting to kidnap the Cuban Consul in Merida, Mexico in July, 1976.

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During the week we have completed work on the following language:

CODE	TITLE	PIS	TAPE
746-747	Atrocities in Cambodia		X
713-714	Food Aid to Vietnam and Laos		X
436	Reply to Marvin Stone and John Barron Articles		X
437	Telephone Bugging by Soviets		X
421	Background Efforts re Shadrin		X
358	"Flying University" in Poland		X
156	Taisir al-Aruri		X
152-155	Sami Esmail		X

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cc: PA/PC-PA,CB,JK;PA/M-DN,BR
PA/PP-JM;PA/FOI-BE;PA/Press
Public Affairs Advisers
USUN-Office of Public Affairs
HA -Ms. Derian
E/CAC-Coordinator
H-Mr. Bennet
H-Ms. Folger
AID/OPA-Mr. Dadian
ACDA/PA-Mr. Pope
C-Mr. Nimetz

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